

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

DR. SWISHER,

(Graduate of the University of New York City, 1876, and former U. S. Examining Surgeon.)

Socorro, - New Mexico.

DR. C. G. DUNCAN,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.
Office east side Plaza.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

DR. E. P. BLINN

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON
AND
OCULIST.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

J. KORNITZER,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

DR. M. A. SAYLER, D.D.S.,

DENTAL SURGEON.
Office over post-office.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

L. E. KITTRELL, DENTIST.

Offices.....
Socorro, Abeyta Block;
San Marcial, Harvey House.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

H. M. DOUGHERTY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

JAMES G. FITCH,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Office in Terry Block.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

ELFEGO BACA,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Socorro, - - New Mexico.

FREEMAN & CAMERON,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

Carlsbad, - - New Mexico.

W. E. KELLEY,

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calates Electrolytic Treatment.

Evidently, therefore, there is

no necessity for electrocuting

bacilli; just check his propaga-

tion; nature will do the rest.

There are parallels to this in

other fields of therapeutics, of

which but two may be mentioned

here.

In coxalgia, for instance, cold,

when persistently applied, yields

very gratifying results in spite

of the fact that the temperature

admissible without freezing the

tissues is far from being bacteri-

cidal.

But with a probability border-

ing certainty, it may be assumed

that even a moderate local low-

ering of temperature is sufficient

to greatly reduce bacterial life and

growth within the diseased joint.

Nature does the rest.

In parasitic bowel diseases we

use with the best of success

intestinal antiseptics, although

we well know by laboratory

experiment that a quantity of

those antiseptics that would kill

the sufferer from enteritis would

not suffice to kill the bacteria at

fault.

But by persistent though

moderate doses of the said

remedies we succeed in so reduc-

ing bacterial life and growth in

the bowels as to give nature a

fair chance to win.

What is true of cold and

antiseptics is also true of electri-

city. In acute diseases all of

these agents are applied until a

cure is accomplished; but in

tuberculosis, occurring, as it does,

only in constitutionally predis-

posed individuals, the Galvanic

current must be applied all

through life (with rare, unavoida-

ble interruptions) by the patient

himself.

For, although electricity will

check the individual case of

phthisical attack in two to four

months, it cannot heal the

constitutional predisposition to

phthisis; hence, the patient must

be taught to consider himself as

being like a fort besieged by an

insidious foe and, to successfully

prevent his onslaughts, keep a

good battery in constant action.

From what I have seen during

a life-long observation, naturally

close and attentive, I feel entitled

to say this about the constitu-

tional predisposition to tuber-

culosis.

Some individuals are born with

tissues more or less morbidly

susceptible of lesion and of but

slow disposition to spontaneous

healing in case of such lesion.

Why such individuals should

exhibit so little energy of tissue

cohesion and reproduction, I don't

know; maybe they do not ingest

or digest tissue-building materials

enough, or they eliminate them

too freely; a fact it is, that

individuals of normal tissue will

go forth unscathed from noxa

which will inflict greater or lesser

injuries upon those more or less

morbidly vulnerable.

First in order, in regard to this

constitutional vulnerability,

stands, as a matter of course, the

most tender of all tissues in the

human body, namely, the mucous

membrane of the respiratory

organ.

Now, it is a fact generally

known, that there is hardly a

human being in a thousand but

he or she contracts quite a num-

ber of slighter or severer "colds"

per annum. In individuals born

with "stout tissues" such colds

(bronchial catarrhs) pass by

harmlessly. Not so, however, in

those born with easily vulnerable

tissue fabrics. Here such a

catarrh may cause small, perhaps

microscopically small, ruptures

in the mucous membrane;

minute losses of its substance;

in a word, ulcers are set.

And wherever there are ulcers

bacteria are not very long in

making their appearance, in order

to lay claim upon the desirable

soil, settle down—bona fide—and

"eat and drink and be merry"

and flourish and multiply and

discharge "lots" of toxins to

poison their host's blood.

Last year (1900) I had two

patients whose cases are highly

illustrative of the efficiency of

the electrolytic treatment.

They were gentlemen of un-

common intelligence and in-

sisted on having their sputa

from time to time microscopically

examined by a thoroughly com-

petent bacteriologist.

In the one the bacilli and other

microba entirely disappeared af-

ter about two months electric

treatment.

In the other the decrease of the

microbe was slower, but curious

to stay, the man, a wretched

crank at the beginning of the

treatment, after about sixty to

seventy applications of the cur-

rent became as lively as a fish

in spite of the bacilli (grouped

and inactive) still present in his

sputum.

He wanted a crucial test and

for this purpose had his sputum

injected into the peritoneal

cavities of two rabbits. In due

time one of them was killed and,

on investigation, not a trace of

tuberculosis was discoverable in

any of its organs! As to the

other rabbit, after a few more

weeks the report came: Rabbit

rolling fast!

Now, the bacteriologist con-

ducting those investigations

and, by the way, superior to

whom is hardly to be found in

the land, was intensely puzzled

by these strange results—strange,

indeed, considering the indispu-

table fact, that the current from

a few Galvanic cells is im-

mensely inadequate to kill the

bacillus tuberculosis.

In explanation of this riddle

our bacteriologist resorted to a

theory which impresses me with

a force bordering that of ex-

perimentally demonstrated facts.

He says: Within the diseased

lung electrolysis may generate

on the positive or negative pole

materials (electricians call them

cations and an-ions) deleterious

to bacillus' life, whereas outside

of the lung in the media at our

disposal, such materials (ions)

are not producible.

(To be Continued.)

Blundered Into It.

He—And so you are really

going to marry that professor—

you, the heroine of a thousand

engagements! How did you ever

come to accept him?

His Cousin (from college)—

Why, you see, he proposed in

Greek, and when I refused him I

got mixed up in my negatives

accepted him, and now I'm too

proud to acknowledge my blun-

der.

Blacking Stoves.

Blackening a stove is one of the

housekeeper's disagreeable duties.

Never try to black it